

## "YOU SHOT YOUR DYING HUSBAND IN THE BACK," ANSWER OF STATE TO GERTRUDE PATTERSON

Denver, Colo., Nov. 23.—"Shot in the back!"

That is the answer of the prosecution to Gertrude Gibson Patterson's plea that she acted in defense of her life when she killed her husband, "Chick" Patterson.

Special Prosecutor Horace G. Benson harped on these words all day long during the trial today.

He brought them up with each successive witness, and with each time the words came up, Mrs. Patterson seemed to shrink a little more in her chair.

But she is still certain she will be acquitted. She was smiling when she entered the courtroom this morning.

"Why these men will never convict me for murder!" she said, as she glanced once more at the jury of twelve young married men. "Never in the world!"

A. B. Shugart is the principal witness for the prosecution. He is the carpenter who was working in his shop when the shooting occurred, and who looked around and saw the end.

Shugart was put through a grilling cross-examination by the defense today. But he remained unshaken in his story.

He said he was working in his carpenter shop September 25 last, when he heard two shots from the direction of the home of E. B. Hendrie, nearby.

"I looked out, and saw a man on his knees. He was on the sidewalk, just beside a big pillar. He was crying 'Oh, my God. "

"And a woman was standing at his back, and she had a revolver in her hand, and she was taking deliberate aim at his back.

"I hollered, 'Don't shoot,' and as I hollered, she fired the third time.

"The man's knees gave out from under him, and he fell on his face. I never saw him move again.

"I ran toward them. As I ran, the woman leaned over the man. I called again, and the woman ran into the Hendrie yard.

"I turned the man over. He was gasping. I think he tried to say something to me, but he could not speak. I found a revolver under his body."

Shugart then identified the revolver held out to him by Special Prosecutor Benson.

"That is the one," he said. It was the revolver Mrs. Patterson borrowed from George Strain two days before the shooting.

The doctors testified today. They said that Patterson only 116½ pounds at the time of his death. They said one lung was eaten away by tuberculosis, and the other full of abscesses. They said they did not think he could have lived for more than two weeks, had he not been shot.

Prosecutor Benson introduced their testimony to show that Mrs. Patterson's statement that her husband mistreated her is false. He says Patterson was too weak to show cruelty to a strong woman like his wife.